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May/June 1993 (Vol. 66, No. 4)

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### Recommended Citation

"May/June 1993 (Vol. 66, No. 4)" (1993). *The Ohio Independent Baptist*. 244.  
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## **The Ohio Independent Baptist**

The Newsletter of the Ohio Association of Regular Baptist Churches

Vol.66 No.4

May/June 1993



*"Now  
Thanks Be  
Unto God  
Who Always  
Causes Us  
To Triumph  
In Christ  
Jesus."*

### **In This Issue**

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## **We Have Met Our \$100,000 Brotherly Love Goal!**

**W**e really believed God was going to do a miracle. We were told by experts that we couldn't do it. They were right, but God could do it, and He has.

We asked God for a great outpouring from His people to help His people. God answered our prayers. As of this writing, the total for the Brotherly Love

offering is \$110,000 with more expected. So far 97 churches have given an average of \$1,082.

Please see the last page for a complete report.





### BROTHERLY LOVE OFFERING

Some of our very small churches have given beyond all expectation. One with a missionary pastor gave \$1,000. Another small church gave over \$2,200. One church on the rebound from decline gave over \$1,100. Bless God.



One small church whose pastor had significant outstanding claims has raised almost \$3,000 through the Brotherly Love Offering to help pay their pastor's claims. What manner of love is this?



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## Having An Impact On Ohio



Larry Fetzer  
State  
Representative

What is more precious and exciting than a newborn baby? For this old State Rep, the thrill of holding in my arms a two-day-old granddaughter was exhilarating—almost as special as when my own kids came. Well, after all, I do consider this one as my own, too. Just let me know if you'd like to see her picture. Her name is Monica Joy Millard.

All this has brought to mind in a fresh way that when God spoke of the entrance of a sinner into His kingdom, he referred to it as a new birth. What is more precious and exciting than a babe in Christ? And to know that God has used you to be a vehicle of the message that introduced this new life to a lost sinner, that truly is exhilarating.

Now most of us can only go through the birthing process in our families just a few times. But isn't it wonderful to know that there is no limit to the number of spiritual offspring we can have? Not all of us have the spiritual gift of evangelism, but all can, and must, do the work of an evangelist, and we must do it unceasingly. And that is the way God's church grows. It's "every member evangelism."

If you want to liven up the life of the church and bring in the fresh bloom of new babes, just get busy and win some to Christ. No, I don't mean just you who are pastors. I mean every one of you who know Christ. Let's all become reproducers.

Now wouldn't that be exciting?

*Larry Fetzer*

## New Ministry Helps Churches

God has in recent days raised up a new ministry of help and encouragement to the local church, and to our missionaries. It is called the Institute of Biblical Leadership (IBL). The director is Dr. Russell Lloyd, from the Washington Heights Baptist Church in Dayton, where he has served in a teaching and counseling ministry for many years.

Dr. Lloyd's heart's desire is to help pastors, churches, missionaries, and other Christian leaders, and to share his expertise in leadership and organization, as well as in counseling.

The IBL ministry is committed to working with local churches, particularly on two levels. The first level is preventative: helping churches develop their leadership skills and ability to work together as a spiritual team. A major part of the IBL ministry is helping churches crystalize their mission into a concise, workable vision statement.

The second level is restorative. Dr. Lloyd is especially burdened for hurting pastors and churches. IBL is a healing ministry aimed at reconciliation and relieving the stress within the local body.

God has already used the IBL team to give extensive help on several mission fields in Africa, South America and Asia. The team assists field counsels in developing a more efficient organizational structure, thus improving their effectiveness in fulfilling their ministry. As objective observers, IBL can point out issues in need of resolution without emotional hurt to the parties involved.

Dr. Lloyd is retired from the US Air Force, where he taught at the Air Force Academy and held other key leadership posts.

State Representative Larry Fetzer has worked with Dr. Lloyd for many years, and currently serves as chairman of the board of directors of IBL. If you would like to get better acquainted with this ministry, call Dr. Lloyd at 513-429-2700 in Dayton, or contact Larry Fetzer.



Hear Paul Tassell, Tony Beckett, Randall Chovan, William Commons, Paul Dixon, John Greening, Tim Kenoyer and Ken Rudolph at the 62nd Annual Conference of the GARBC in Des Moines, Iowa, June 19-23.



Our Task Team Prayer Warriors support group for church planting has begun its mission of intercessory prayer. It's not too late for you to be included. If you have the interest and gift of intercessory prayer, write Pastor Gus Guthrie, 733 N. Sandusky St., Tiffin, OH, 44883.

## Team Reports Enthusiasm For Church Planting

After only two meetings of the Church Planting Task Team, the enthusiastic outlook of the group of catalysts and entrepreneur-types is contagious. Each meeting focused on the question, "What do we need to DO to encourage church planting in the state of Ohio?" The task team has done or is doing the following:

- Pastor Gus Guthrie of Tiffin sent out a letter asking for prayer warriors from each OARBC church. Many responded, and we now have a team committed to regular prayer on behalf of church planting in Ohio.

- Those interested in planting a church in Marysville are being contacted. The plan is to start a Bible study with them. We should be able to report results from that in the next couple months.

- We are assembling a list of areas our pastors and people consider to be "hot

spots" for planting a church. The list will lead to demographic research. A list of potential church planters is being assembled. We will communicate with them, nurturing that interest as the Lord leads.

The funds, which were flowing in, have slowed to a trickle as our attention has focused on the RBF situation. We can't afford to forget church planting! We need funds for demographic research, training for potential and current church planters, and communication.

There will be a full report, display and slide presentation about Ohio church planting at the OARBC Annual Conference, October 18-20.

--Joel Harriman

## Cedarville College News

The National Youth Ministries Conference recently recognized Dr. Cheryl Fawcett, assistant professor of Christian education, for "Outstanding Contribution to Youth Ministry, 1993." A popular speaker and seminar leader in church education, Dr. Fawcett also writes Sunday school material for Regular Baptist Press.

Charles Pagnard, associate professor of instrumental music, presented a master class for the 1992 Tri-State Trumpet Guild Conference at the University of Cincinnati College-Conservatory of Music. Pagnard, principal trumpet of the Dayton Philharmonic Orchestra, also was featured performer on "Carillon Christmas," a CD and cassette release by the prize-winning brass quintet, Carillon Brass.

Charles Allport, director of engineering programs and associate professor of mechanical engineering at Cedarville College, is one of 21 outstanding engineering educators to take part in the SAE engineering society's 1993 Ralph R. Teetor Educational Award Program, in Anaheim, California. Professor Allport will discuss current engineering issues with practicing engineers of the aerospace industry.

## Teens Head For Des Moines

On April 3, Ohio teens competed for an opportunity to represent the state at this year's National Talents For Christ contest in Des Moines, Iowa. Ohio's first-place winners will compete for college scholarships at GARBC approved schools. The winners are:

**Piano:** Amy Clutz, Grace Baptist, Westerville

**Organ:** none

**Female Voice:** Lori Anderson, Southgate Baptist, Springfield

**Male Voice:** John Sebastyn, First Baptist, Brunswick

**Woodwinds:** Rebecca Lakes, Southgate Baptist, Springfield

**Brass:** Michael Thompson, Grace Baptist, Troy

**Strings:** LeaAnne Churgovich, First Baptist, Medina

**Bible Knowledge:** Chris Hales, Abbe Road Baptist, Elyria

**Writing:** Melissa Ray, Grace Baptist, Canton

**Female Public Speaking:**

Deborah Griffith, Grace Baptist, Troy

**Male Public Speaking:** Brian Kelly, Lakeview Baptist, Dundee

In addition, the Abbe Road Baptist (Elyria) senior high puppet team took first in puppet competition.

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HATS OFF to a church which raised over \$4,300 to help a missionary pastor with some heavy insurance claims. Thank you, dear people.



The charter bus to the GARBC Conference for Youth Days has room for 20 more teens. Call Pastor Bob Veenhuis, Lakeview Baptist, Dundee (216-878-7966) for information. It's an economical and fun way to get your kids to Youth Days.

## Across the State



Verna Hetherington



The grandchildren of Verna Hetherington surprised her with a birthday reception at the **Grace Baptist Church**.

Mrs. Hetherington, a charter member, is still very active. She has rarely missed a service through her 65-year walk with the Lord. Even through the severe illnesses of her husband and only child, she was faithful. She has taught Sunday school, Bible clubs, VBS, and is presently discipling the woman who cared for her daughter as she was dying. Through the faithful testimony of Verna and her daughter, this woman gave her heart to Christ.

Friends and family wished her a happy 90th birthday by presenting her a scrapbook of notes, pictures and poems.



"Focus On Baptist Missions" will be the theme of **Union Baptist's** missions conference May 9-11. Missionary speakers include Mr. & Mrs.

Tom Zentz (ABWE Japan), Mr. & Mrs. David Taylor (ABWE Brazil), Mr. & Mrs. Don Taber (ABWE Philippines), and Marlon Banez. Messages for the conference will center on the *why, what, how* and *who* of planting New Testament Baptist churches.

Marlon Banez will serve a summer internship at Union Baptist. Banez, a Filipino student at Toronto Baptist Seminary in Toronto, Canada, pastored a Baptist church in the Philippines before resigning to further his theological studies.



An ordination council was called by **Faith Baptist** to examine Pastor Floyd Stanfill. The council unanimously recommended that the church proceed with ordination. Pastor Stanfill was ordained March 28 with Rev. Larry Fetzer as speaker.

Faith Baptist recently graduated from mission to self-supporting status.



**Welch Road Baptist** had a special mortgage burning service on February 28. Many of the original families were present to join in the celebration. Pastor Gary Hohman, who was pastor at the time the church was built, spoke in the afternoon service. The mortgage was paid off seven years early, saving \$22,779.07 in interest.

The church is currently pastored by Randall Nelson.



On Sunday, March 7, Pastor Bill and Margaret Wheeler celebrated the 20th anniversary of their ministry at **Emmanuel Baptist**. Many notes of encouragement and commendation to the Wheelers for their years of service were read. Larry Fetzer was the speaker for the special day.



Pastor Robert Riedy, of **Calvary Baptist**, writes, "Based on a growing conviction that the prayer ministry of our church needs to take a backseat to nothing, we made a program adjustment. This adjustment took place during the months of February through April and primarily entailed moving our prayer emphasis to Sunday nights." Under this schedule, the Sunday school hour focused on teaching; the worship service focused on preaching, the Sunday evening hour on prayer, and Thursday evenings on group Bible study.



David P. Graham



David P. Graham began his ministry at **Grace Baptist** on Sunday, April 25. He comes to Cedarville from First Baptist in Elkhart, Indiana, where he served for the past six years. He had a rich experience as Christian school teacher, principal and youth pastor, before accepting his first pastorate in Cedar Falls, Iowa. He is a member of the Baptist Mid-Missions Council, the GARBC Council of 18, and a trustee at Cedarville College. He and his wife, Carol, have two daughters, Robyn and Allyson, who are both married.



As part of a month-long missions emphasis, **Nottingham Baptist** planned an international dinner on March 14. In spite of a weekend blizzard which canceled morning services and postponed the dinner to evening, over 200 attended. The menu included salads from Mexico and Italy, Hungarian goulash and sauerkraut, and American apple pie. Steve and Sheryl Wingett and Chris and Debbie Johnson, ABWE appointees to Hungary, were speakers for the day. Pastor Scott Renstrom says the church chose the month-long missions emphasis format to give many more of their new believers exposure to their missionaries.



Harry and Joyce Ramsey, of Ramsey Family Ministries, were guests of **Vermillion Baptist** March 21-24. Pastor Albert Yost reports very good meetings with the Ramseys, who are puppeteers and accomplished musicians. In spite of dense fog and snow, the meetings brought out many visitors, including some from neighboring churches, and salvation and commitment decisions were made.





**PUT IT IN YOUR DATE BOOK NOW!**  
 1993 OARBC Annual Conference  
 October 18-20, Northfield Baptist  
 (southeast of Cleveland)  
 Main speaker: Dr. Warren Wiersbe

**OIB news deadline  
 for July/August issue  
 June 14**



Bottom: Wilbur Parrish, Dwight Scheetz, Wallace Larson  
 Top: Kenneth Spink, Powers Payton, George Pease

**Strongsville** Pastor Wilbur Parrish reported on the eighth annual Bible conference held by Berea Baptist, Berea; First Baptist, Parma; First Baptist, Strongsville; First Baptist, Brunswick; and Beebetown Baptist, Brunswick, March 7-10.

Rev. Powers Payton of Grandville, Michigan, was the speaker. He preached on the theme, "Pulled From the Fire...the Coming Deadline." Special musicians were Dwight Scheetz, of Belleville, Michigan, as "Patch the Pirate," and Doug Wilson, of Akron. The children attended a special program each night, and on Tuesday morning, the ladies enjoyed music, crafts and missionary speaker Cathy Bristol. Miss Bristol is a nurse, serving with BMM in Liberia. She spoke on, "The Trauma of Missions in Civil War."

The pastors of the cooperating churches encourage other churches to hold similar joint meetings where it is geographically possible. All of the churches mutually profited.

**Wheelersburg** On March 25, Bradley S. Brandt, pastor of Wheelersburg Baptist, was examined for ordination to the gospel ministry.

The ordination service was held on Sunday evening, March 28. Brandt, a graduate of Cedarville College and Grand Rapids Baptist Seminary, has pastored at Wheelersburg for five years. Brandt's former pastor and mentor, David Dernlan, of West Liberty, Ohio, spoke at the ordination service. Pastor Brandt and his wife, Sherry, have two daughters, Julie and Katie.

**Galion** First Baptist dedicated its new access entrance and elevator on March 14. The building previously had six entrances, all of which involved steps to both the worship and educational areas. The new 18 x 23 foot addition provides access to the building on three levels, and will make all church facilities accessible to those with physical disabilities. Former pastor John Dantuma brought the dedication message at the afternoon service. His wife, Kay, provided special music for the occasion.

Richard McIntosh is pastor at First Baptist.

**Toledo** Dan Friesner, ministries coordinator at Emmanuel Baptist, reports that "Act 29, The World At Our Doorstep" was the theme for the month-long March missions conference. They dramatized the work of the church in this century by "writing" an additional chapter for the book of Acts. As part of a drama, Peter appeared from inside a huge Bible, having waited there 2,000 years. Every service in March was targeted for missions emphasis, with the final Sunday-Wednesday a concentrated missions emphasis.

Special events included the church family praying around-the-clock in 15-minute segments for missionaries, an adopt-a-missionary program, and the distribution of a pictorial missionary album.

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**Ohio Independent Baptist**  
 is a publication of the  
 Ohio Association of  
 Regular Baptist Churches

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 Randolph, New York

Please direct all comments, correspondence, and news to  
**Ohio Independent Baptist**  
 P.O. Box 293058  
 Kettering, OH 45429  
 513-294-0293

The OIB is published bi-monthly Feb/Mar, May/June, July/Aug, Nov/Dec and monthly Jan, Apr, Sept, Oct, for \$4 (\$8 foreign) per year by the Ohio Association of Regular Baptist Churches, 327 East Drive, Dayton, OH 45419.





Shepherds' Dr. James Misirian receives keys to new van from Campbell's representative.

## Shepherds Trades Labels For Van

With the help of churches and friends across the country, Shepherds Home and School recently presented Campbells with 995,000 Campbell's labels—enough to be awarded the top prize of a 15-seat van in the Campbell's Label for Education Program. This is the second van Campbell's has given Shepherds in the past three years.

Many Ohio churches are regularly involved in collecting the labels. "We got the word out through a mailing list of friends and churches across the country," President James Misirian said. "Sometimes they send back boxes filled with them, or a church group visits and brings along a sackful."

Shepherds residents and volunteers worked to prepare the 995,000 labels needed for the new van. Shepherds' collection of labels placed 10th of the 25,000 submitted from across the United States.

Shepherds, located in southeastern Wisconsin, offers "Compassionate Christian Care for the Mentally Disabled." The Home provides educational instruction, pre-vocational training and residential facilities for nearly 160 men and women, as well as a Bible-centered curriculum, personalized workshops for churches and schools, short term respite care for adults during summer months, volunteer programs and resident gospel teams.

Additional information about this unique ministry is available by contacting Shepherds, PO Box 400, Union Grove, WI 53182.

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## Women's Page

## 1993-94 Project To Help New Believers

In my devotions recently, I read I Peter 2:2, "As newborn babes, desire the sincere milk of the word, that ye may grow thereby." It had special significance when I thought about some of the things going on around me.

Have you been around a newborn baby recently? Our nursery at church has been providing me that opportunity. Newborns are so precious. They bring such joy and represent so much potential. Have you noticed (how can you not notice?) their single-mindedness and desire when they're hungry? They go after that milk in a frenzy. Can you imagine what it would be like trying to feed them if you had to prepare formula one tablespoon at a time?

That's what many of our missionaries are doing. They labor to bring forth new babes in Christ (John 1:12,13) but there is no pre-mixed formula (simple, basic

teaching materials) available. Often the material available is beyond the learners' reading skills. Missionaries must each prepare their own lessons to "feed" the newborns while at the same time trying to bring more babies to life in Christ, caring for the older children and teens, and establishing an orderly functioning home (church). Most of the time there are few or no other adults to help.

**Our new Ohio OWMU project provides a way for us to help.**

Right here, in Ohio, we have some pre-mixed formula (seven Bible study courses) that needs to be packaged (printed) and mailed. The TIME department of Baptist Mid-Missions has been busy preparing a number of basic study courses designed to feed newborns. Bob and Ruth Watterson spent two terms in Ghana before coming to the TIME department. They know firsthand just what is needed. With the help of other missionaries and department writers, they have produced materials that will benefit missionaries and new believers around the world.

Ladies, let us once again join hands for the work (save those quarters) and join hearts in prayer as we have the opportunity to Invest in TIME for Eternity.

Servants together with Him,  
Diane Varner

## Dear Ladies

In Deuteronomy 8:2, God, through Moses, instructed the Israelites to "remember all the way which the Lord thy God led thee these forty years in the wilderness." God knew if they looked back at all of His provisions, care, and blessings, they'd move ahead in faith to the new challenges of the promised land. The same is true for us today. As we look back at all of the provisions, care, and blessings of the past four years in the OWMU ministry, we will with great faith and renewed enthusiasm move ahead to the task before us as we continue to "Join hands and SPAN the world for missions" until Jesus comes for us.

My heart is full now, and I wish it were possible for me to thank each one of you personally for the way you have enriched my life and encouraged my heart these past four years. At this moment so many dear names and faces come to my mind, and with Paul I can truly say, "I thank my God upon every remembrance of YOU."

In His love and for His glory,  
Sue Miller

### 1993 FALL RETREATS

#### Scioto Hills Retreat

September 9-11  
Speakers: Cheryl Fawcett and Sue Shipp  
Theme: "Women Mentoring Women"  
Host Church: Clintonville Baptist, Columbus

#### Skyview Retreat

September 16-18  
Speaker: Shirley DeFelice  
Theme: "And God Promised"  
Host Church: Northfield Baptist

#### Salt Fork Retreat

November 11-12  
Speaker: Elaine Schulte  
Theme: "In Times Like These"  
Host Church: Welch Road Baptist, Commercial Point



# Keeping Up With Our Camps



In the eyes of the kids coming to camp this summer, they are heroes. They are not sport stars nor well-known people nor Christian celebrities. Who are these heroes? They are the Ranch staff. Ordinary young people with one common trait—a desire to serve the Lord.

The decision to serve at the Ranch means giving up making "real money" and time with their friends. For college students, it means the sacrifice of another three months away from home. Instead, they come to the Ranch to give long hours of work in hot conditions, and give up their privacy to live and work with other staff and ranchers.

Their benefits, however, are great—much greater than any wages we could possibly provide. Lessons come from their step of faith as they put to practice

what they learned from faithful parents, pastors and teachers. Maturity comes by stretching themselves through new experiences, handling pressures of ministry and working with people. Attitudes of service are developed and tested. A combination of thorough training, supervision and teaching throughout the summer with the practical experience of living and doing God's work produces a new person by the end of the summer.

The testimony of the staff is one of good example, love, and friendship. A simple combination that makes them become heroes—a refreshing change from the heroes offered by our society. The Ranch desires a staff with an attitude of blamelessness before God. The result of this testimony yearly is a good decision rate and an immeasurable impact made by the example of dedicated youth to their peers and younger children.

Please pray for the final selection of these young people for this summer's staff. This summer, pray that God would guard their hearts, give them stamina, and motivate them to reach out boldly with God's Word.

## Scioto Hills

### ATTENTION BLOBBERS!!

The Blob will arrive in the lake at Scioto Hills Camp this summer. All Blob-battling bloopers should report to camp to attempt to conquer the Blob. At last sighting the Blob was eight feet tall, ten feet wide, and almost forty feet long. Bloopers landing on the Blob are catapulted high into the air, then must prepare for landing. Only by experiencing the Blob can you truly know what blobbing is all about.

### SUMMER CAMP SCHEDULE

June 14-19	Jr Hi
June 21-26	Jr
June 28-July 3	Jr
July 5-10	Sr Hi
July 12-17	Jr Hi
July 19-24	Jr
July 26-31	Jr

Scioto Hills Camp welcomes the David Bell family as the newest addition to the team. David will assume the position of food service manager, along with help from his wife, Jennifer, and their three sons, Brian, Daniel and Benjamin. How we thank God for providing this couple. Please pray with us as they get geared into the program of Scioto Hills.



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## Camp Patmos

The trustees and new camp director, Doug Wilson, are eagerly looking forward to the 1993 camping season.

In order to get the camp ready, we will have work weekends held every weekend in May, except May 7-8. Items to be accomplished include painting, some roofing, vinyl siding, and general clean-up. We need your help to get the camp operational.

The camp also needs two new outboard motors, 115 hp Mercury, for the boats. These motors will cost between \$6-7,000 each.

There are openings for campers for Junior High week, June 14. Please send registrations to:

Darlene Morgan, Registrar  
Mogadore Baptist Church  
Box 126  
Mogadore, OH 44260  
216-746-2214

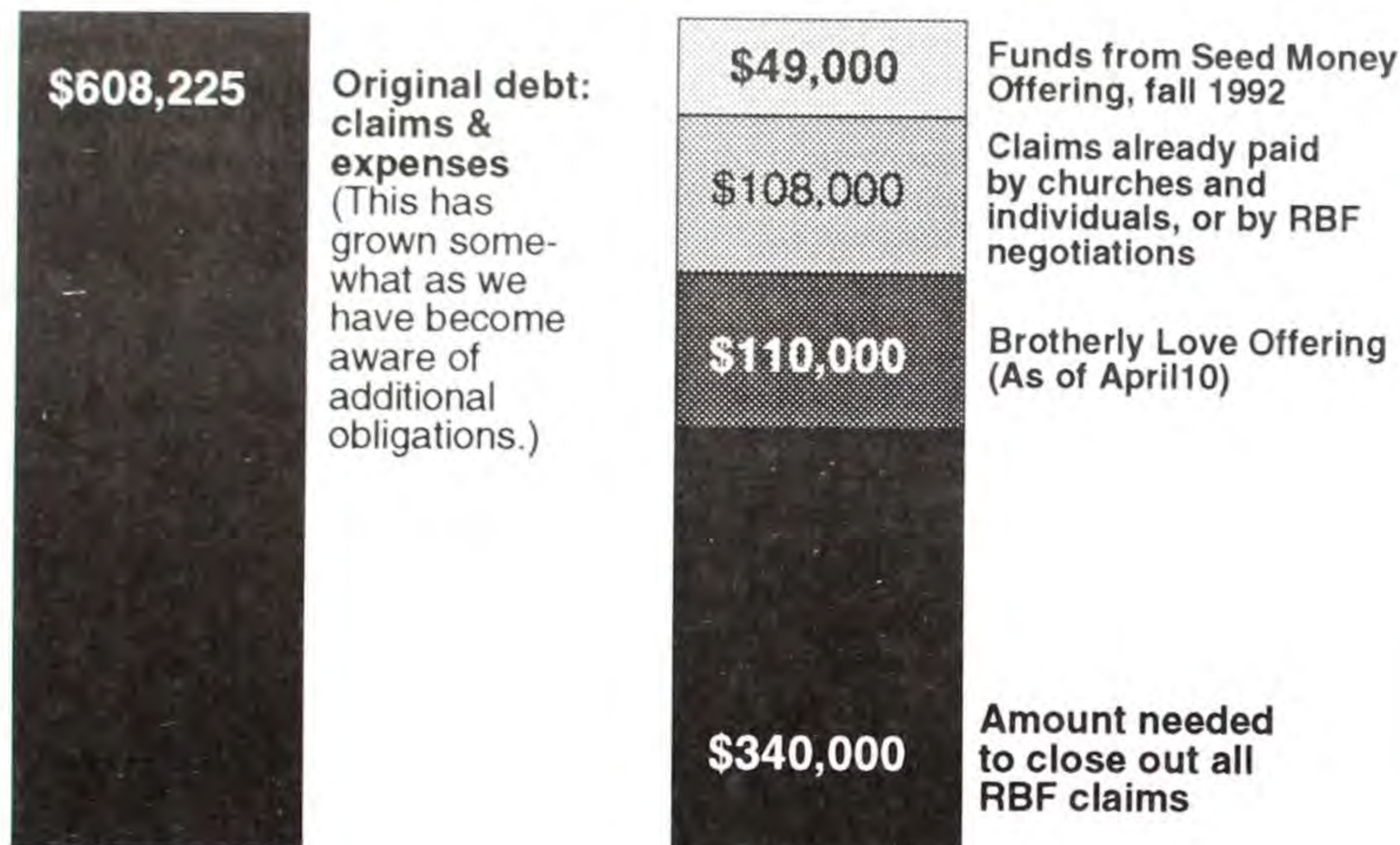


# RBF Fund-Raising Report

"The total number of OARBC churches participating in the RBF healing ministry is 109, or 54.5% of the association."

**I**t has now been more than six months since the OARBC Regular Baptist Health Care Fund failed. On December 1, 1992, the OARBC was left with over \$600,000 debt, including expenses. The Council of Twelve has been meeting frequently and working diligently to raise funds to repay outstanding claims.

*As of April 10, we have raised 43% of the need.*



In addition, 21 churches have added RBF to their monthly budget for a total of \$2,260 per month or \$27,120 for the year. Thank God for providing this kind of income in such a short time. Yet we must continue to press forward. We need individual donors, as well as more churches putting us on their monthly budget. **IT IS NOT TOO LATE TO BE A PART OF THIS OFFERING.**

Thank you to those churches which have helped. Ninety-seven have taken part in the offering; 21 have put RBF on their budgets; 27 have paid pastors' claims. The total number of OARBC churches participating in the RBF healing ministry is 109, or 54.5% of the Association. Just think what we could do if we had 100% participation.

The Fund Raising Committee is planning another major offering for next February. Some churches may be able to take a Thanksgiving/Christmas offering. Others will want to give at the annual conference.

Working together with one another, and Christ, we will prevail.



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